

## SCIENTIFIC NOTE

MISSISSIPPI RECORD FOR *CURICTA SCORPIO*  
(HEMIPTERA: NEPIDAE)<sup>1</sup>Paul K. Lago<sup>2</sup>

During the past several years, I have had the opportunity to conduct various environmental surveys at the Stennis Space Center in southwestern Hancock County, Mississippi. Although these studies have, for the most part, not been centered on insects, I have taken the occasional opportunity to make small collections. Recently, while working through some of this collected material, I discovered a specimen of *Curicta scorio* Stål originally collected on 21 June 1991. The specimen was taken as it walked across a dirt path on a levee perhaps 2 meters above the edge of a small, shallow pond within the rocket testing facility. Since a breeding bird survey was the focus of my presence in the area, no attempt was made to collect additional specimens. Although capturing the specimen away from its normal aquatic habitat seemed unusual at the time, this species has been documented previously as occasionally occurring completely out of water (Sites and Polhemus, 1994).

Although not previously known from the state, Wilson (1958) included *Curicta drakei* Hungerford (= *C. scorio*) in his work on the aquatic and semiaquatic Hemiptera of Mississippi on the basis of the species being present in southeastern Louisiana (Hungerford, 1922; Ellis, 1952). Most recently, Sites and Polhemus (1994) and Keffer (1996), in his revision of New World species of the genus, indicated that the range of *C. scorio* in North America encompassed southeastern Texas and southern Louisiana. The Mississippi record presented here extends the range of the species modestly (about 95 kilometers) to the northeast of that previously known and is the first record east of the Pearl River.

The specimen has been placed in my personal collection.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

R. W. Sites kindly provided useful comments on the initial version of this manuscript. I wish to thank Al Watkins and Ron Magee for their support during my work at the Stennis Space Center.

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<sup>1</sup> Received December 10, 1999. Accepted February 4, 2000.

<sup>2</sup> Department of Biology, University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677.